

What an incredible statement and prophetic observation from this young man and hero. Before his sacrifice of his own life he clearly realized the commitment he had made to his Nation and also mentioned a reality of how military service and sacrifice is often forgotten by people and public officials. I believe it's important on not only Memorial Day and Veterans Day and now during the holidays and in fact every day that we remember the sacrifice of Patrick D. Deans and thousands of other men and women who have paid the ultimate sacrifice so that we can live as a free people.

Patrick grew up in East Orange county Florida and moved to Narcoossee and east Osceola where he attended Harmony High and played football. He later resided in East Orange County and graduated in 2006 from Timber Creek high school where he was a member of Air Force ROTC Program.

Patrick joined the Army in 2007 and served as an Infantryman until his deployment. His awards and decorations include: Army Commendation Medal, Army Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Army Service Medal and Overseas Ribbon. He was posthumously promoted to corporal.

He is the only child of Patrick M. Deans, a corporal with the Orange County Sheriff's Office, and Robyn Deans of Seminole County Florida.

Along with my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives I extend my deepest sympathy to Patrick's family and the eternal gratitude of our Nation.

TAX RELIEF, UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE, REAUTHORIZATION, AND JOB CREATION ACT OF 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 16, 2010

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4853) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the funding and expenditure authority of the Airport and Airway Trust Fund, to amend title 49, United States Code, to extend authorizations for the airport improvement program, and for other purposes:

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, last night, I voted against a fiscally irresponsible \$858 billion tax cut package. Every penny of this budget-busting bill will be borrowed—much of it from China—and the burden placed on the backs of our children and grandchildren.

To keep the economic recovery on track and meet the needs of struggling American families, I do support extending middle class

tax cuts and unemployment insurance. But Republicans in Congress held these priorities hostage until millionaires and billionaires were guaranteed tax cuts that they don't need. Tax breaks for the wealthy are a luxury Americans can't afford. This is simply wrong. With unemployment nearly at 10 percent, Members of Congress should be focused on getting all of America back to work, not padding the trust funds for a precious few.

The tax package the House voted on last night was even worse than the one negotiated by the President and Republicans in Congress. The Senate got into the holiday spirit and sent the House a Christmas tree bill loaded down with special interest "sweeteners." Why will NASCAR owners open their stockings this year to find a \$40 million tax break from the American people? Why are Hollywood producers getting a \$162 million in special breaks paid for by the American people? Why do rum makers in Puerto Rico get \$235 million? Middle class Americans shouldn't be forced to use the nation's credit card so the special interests receive everything on their wish lists.

America needs honest and responsible policymaking. The federal budget is in crisis and tough decisions are necessary. This tax cut package makes no tough decisions. Instead, kicks the hard choices down the road and makes solving America's fiscal crisis much harder.